



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 126

February Session, 2008

* SB00126ENV__031308__ *

AN ACT CONCERNING UNIFORM INSPECTION PROCEDURES FOR FARMERS' MARKETS, FARM PRODUCTS AND FRESH PRODUCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Farmers' market" means a cooperative or nonprofit enterprise or
4 association that consistently occupies a given site throughout the
5 season, which operates principally as a common marketplace for a
6 group of farmers, at least two of whom are selling Connecticut-grown
7 fresh produce, to sell Connecticut-grown farm products directly to
8 consumers and to sell fresh produce to food service establishments, as
9 defined in section 19-13-B42 of the regulations of Connecticut state
10 agencies, and where the farm products sold are produced by the
11 participating farmers with the sole intent and purpose of generating a
12 portion of household income;

13 (2) "Fresh produce" means fruits and vegetables that have not been
14 processed in any manner;

15 (3) "Farm products" means any fresh fruits, vegetables, mushrooms,
16 nuts, shell eggs, honey or other bee products, maple syrup or maple
17 sugar, flowers, nursery stock and other horticultural commodities,
18 livestock food products, including meat, milk, cheese and other dairy

19 products, food products of "aquaculture", as defined in subsection (q)
 20 of section 1-1 of the general statutes, products from any tree, vine or
 21 plant and their flowers, or any of the products listed in this
 22 subdivision that have been processed by the participating farmer,
 23 including, but not limited to, baked goods.

24 (b) Not later than July 1, 2008, the Commissioner of Agriculture
 25 shall develop uniform standards to be followed by state and local
 26 health officials when inspecting farmers' markets, farm products and
 27 fresh produce sold at retail by farmers in the state. In developing such
 28 uniform standards, the commissioner shall consult with interested
 29 parties and the Commissioner of Public Health.

30 (c) The standards developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this
 31 section shall be posted on the Internet web site of the Department of
 32 Agriculture.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*